

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3140

UNCLAS BERN 4024

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR SZ

SUBJ: CIVAIR - EXCESS BAGGAGE RULES

REF: (A) STATE 208116, (B) BERN 3436 (C) PARIS 23360

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED CONTENTS OF REF A WITH JAISLI AND FUERRER, SWISS FEDERAL AIR OFFICE. SWISS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING FOR CAB VIEW OF EXCESS BAGGAGE FARE SITUATION AND RECALLED HAVING BEEN INFORMED BY SWISSAIR OF CAB 1972 INVESTIGATION ORDER. HOWEVER, SWISS MAINTAINED THEIR OBJECTION TO TWA UNILATERAL FILING NEW EXCESS BAGGAGE FARES IN ABSENCE PRIOR USG SWISS AGREEMENT. SWISS CONSIDER BAGGAGE RATES BILATERALLY AGREED RATES AND ARE STILL AWAITING REPLY TO THEIR NOTE TRANSMITTED REF B.

2. SWISS NOTED THAT TWA HAD FILED NEW INCREASED FARE PACKAGE EFFECTIVE NOV 1 BUT SWISS BELIEVE CAB IS OPPOSED FARE INCREASE AT THIS TIME. SWISS FELT IT IMPERATIVE AWAIT OUTCOME MIAMI IATA TALKS BEFORE MAKING CHANGES EXCESS BAGGAGE RATES OR AIR FARES. THEREFORE SWISS CONSTRAINED REJECT ALL NEW UNILATERAL FARE AND BAGGAGE RATE FILINGS BY TWA AND WILL GIVE US DIPLOMATIC NOTE RESERVING THEIR POSITION UNDER BILATERAL AVAIIATION AGREEMENT. SWISS ADDED THEY BEGINNING TO FEEL HARASSED BY TWA RATE FILINGS.

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3. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH TWA GENERAL MANAGER SWITZERLAND

AUBREY NOBLE, EMBOFF LEARNED THAT TWA SUBMITTED NEW FARE SCHEDULE ON ORDERS FROM TWA HEADQUARTERS. NOBLE SAID TWA HAS ALSO FILED WITH SEVERAL OTHER FOREIGN GOVTS BUT EXPECTS WISS TO DELAY ACTION PENDING OUTCOME OF IATA TALKS. NOBLE ALSO MENTIONED TWA HAD FILED WITH SWISS SCHEDULE INCLUDING TWICE WEEKLY FLIGHTS TO NICE VIA GENEVA, ALTERNATING WITH TWICE WEEKLY FLIGHTS TO MILAN VIA GENEVA. NOBLE SAID HE BELIEVED FLIGHTS TO NICE FROM GENEVA OUTSIDE SCOPE OF BILATERAL AND WAS WAITING FOR SWISS REACTION. RE EXCESS BAGGAGE RATES, NOBLE SAID PRESENT SITUATION ONE WHERE TWA NOW CHARGING NEW RATE 0.7 PERCENT OF ECONOMY CLASS FARE ON FLIGHTS FROM US AND OLD RATE 1 PERCENT OF FIRST CLASS FARE ON FLIGHTS ORIGINATING IN SWITZERLAND.

4. EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT NEW SWISS NOTE WHEN RECEIVED. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE REFTEL B. DAVIS

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